

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
of April 14, 2011**

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2010-2011 academic year was held April 14, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. in the University Room (BB 2.06.04) with Dr. Carola Wenk, Chair of the Faculty Senate, presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

Present: Diane Abdo, Sos Agaian, Robert Ambrosino, Yoris Au, Manuel Berriozabal, Mark Brill, Garry Cole, William Cooke, Renee Cowan, Beth Durodoye, Carol Dyas, MaryEllen Garcia, Lars Hansen, Robert Hard, Anne Hargrove, Patricia Harris, Janis Bush (for Judith Haschenburger), Mary Kay Houston-Vega, Amy Jasperson, Daniel Jimenez, Palani-Rajan Kadapakkam, Kim Kline, Zlatko Koinov, Donald Kurtz, Melvin Laracey, Richard Lewis, Ron Bagley (for Randy Manteufel), John McCray, Mary McNaughton-Cassill, Josephine Mendez-Negrete, Elizabeth Murakami-Ramalho, Annette Portillo, Hazem Rashed-Ali, Libby Rowe, Dan Sass, Hatim Sharif, Ted Skekel, Johnelle Sparks, Elaine Turney (for Patricia Thompson), Raydel Tullous, Alistair Welchman, Carola Wenk, Bennie Wilson

Absent: Mansour El-Kikhia, Victor Heller, Alycia Maurer, John Merrifield (excused), Darryl Ohlenbusch, Branco Ponomariov, Anand Ramasubmaranian, Misty Sailors,

Guests: Tom Coyle, Gerry Dizinno, Ann Eisenberg, John Frederick, Donovan Fogt, Kelly Garza, Rebecca Luther, George Norton, Mike Tapia

Total members present: 43

Total members absent: 8

II. Approval of the March 10, 2011 minutes

The minutes were approved.

III. Reports

A. Chair of the Faculty Senate- Dr. Carola Wenk

Dr. Wenk gave the status on the resolution for collaborative future revisions of HOP 2.04 Faculty Recruitment Manual revisions, senators are presently working on this issue with Dr. Zapata. She said the resolution on Concealed Firearms on Campus was sent to the UT System. Dr. Wenk mentioned that the memos from the Provost and President regarding Senate resolutions are available to all senators on

RowdySpace. Dr. Wenk said the Provost has agreed to include Senate representatives early in the review process of HOP policies and Provost's guidelines. Dr. Wenk described the current resolution approval process and provided the Provost's recommended changes to the procedure. She said the Provost would like the senate to make distinctions of resolutions that need approval and those that do not and resolutions regarding HOP revisions should not be approved but instead sent to the University HOP Committee. Dr. Wenk said the Faculty Senate bylaws already distinguish between actions which require approval and those that do not. She said the resolutions regarding HOP revisions are senate actions which require action and approval by the administration; however, that approval process conflicts with HOP 9.03 HOP Amendment Process which instituted the University HOP Committee in August of 2009. Dr. Wenk said the Faculty Senate Executive Committee had discussed this issue and proposed a change to HOP 9.03: for educational policies (as defined by RR 40101) this will draw more on the expertise of the Faculty Senate rather than on the HOP Committee. Dr. Wenk said the Faculty Senate Executive Committee recommends that a Senate Research Advisory Committee be established and gave a brief explanation of the committee structure and charge as suggest by the Nominating, Elections, and Procedures Committee. She said this committee would be responsible for reviewing HOP policies revisions that come from the Vice President of Research's office. Dr. Wenk asked if the senate approved adding the Research Advisory Ad Hoc Committee, the motion was made, seconded and passed by a majority vote. She asked that names of volunteers for this ad hoc committee be sent to her via email. She gave an update on HOP 2.12 Student Evaluations of Teaching and said it has been reverted to the version from 2002. She said the senate passed a resolution in February of 2011 with wording changes. Dr. Wenk said the Provost sent a memo to the Department Chairs explaining that each department would have autonomy in collecting written comments and that comments should be kept on file in the department for a minimum of one year.

- B. Secretary of General Faculty- Dr. Amy Jasperson
- Dr. Jasperson reminded everyone that Dr. Wenk recently emailed a report from the AAUP with results of its salary study. She announced a Town Hall meeting about the fiscal state of Texas hosted by Senator Leticia Van De Putte on April 20, 2011 at the UT Health Science Center. Dr. Jasperson reminded the senate that the University Standing Committee Interest Sheets are due April 15th. She said the UT System Faculty Advisory Council passed two resolutions. The first resolution supported Representative Dan Branch and Senator Judith Zaffirini, Chairs of the Higher Education Committees in the Texas legislature, in support of emerging tier one universities and the importance and centrality of research to teaching. She said the second issue dealt with UT Brownsville's split with Texas Southmost College, and a resolution was passed urging the administration to consult with the Faculty Senate at UT Brownsville in making any decisions about program closures. Dr. Jasperson said the UT System Faculty Advisory Council had the opportunity to meet with two Regents, Regent Pejovich and Regent Hall, who are co-chairing the Faculty Productivity Task Force. She said there is a desire for

faculty to increase their productivity by 10%, but it is not clear how this is measured. More information will be forthcoming as the Task Force completes its analysis. She said the Regents are interested in hearing input and feedback from faculty. She said that the UT System FAC provided the Regents with “electronic binders” of information to assist them in understanding what faculty do regarding teaching, research, and service. She said there will be an additional meeting about PPE at the system level. Dr. Jasperson said the Gun Bill is stalled in the Senate; it was one or two votes short of being called up for consideration.

- C. Provost’s Report- Dr. John Frederick
Dr. Frederick mentioned the two task forces set up by the Chairman of the Board, Gene Powell; one on Faculty Productivity and the other on Distance and Blended Education. He said Dr. Romo serves on the Distance and Blended Education Task Force and Blended Education Task Force but UTSA does not have a representative on the Faculty Productivity Task Force but is included at all the meetings. He said the Faculty Productivity Task Force has been active and has asked for a lot of information including salaries, number of classes taught, number of students taught, teaching evaluations, and research grants brought in. He said the Coordinating Board issued a report on cost efficiencies last November and UTSA received another data request asking what was being done to address the recommendations. He said there were seventeen recommendations they requested the status of. He said they wrote a one page response for each one of the recommendations. He said that, in most cases, the issues were already being addressed and he considers it a part of the overall continuous improvement to the university which has no end date. Dr. Frederick said there was another data request that had to be turned in by April 14th. The results showed that UTSA produces 20% better than other Texas institutions in regards to student credit hours. Dr. Frederick said that midterm grades may required for all students, not just freshman and he would like faculty to be prepared. He said more requests will be sent regarding space utilization, the research space utilization and how long PhD students are at UTSA before they receive their degree. He said the completion rate of PhD students is 80% higher than at other emerging research universities in Texas. He said he will continue to work with the Faculty Senate to move forward. He reminded the senate that the Faculty Honors Ceremony will be held April 28, 2011.
- D. Consent Calendar
The Faculty Senate unanimously consented to Kim Bilica’s appointment as the new Graduate Council Chair.
- E. Academic Policy Requirements Committee-Bennie Wilson
Dr. Wilson said that the proposed College of Engineering policy is being brought back to the senate after being tabled at the last meeting. He said the answers to the questions had already been supplied to the senate. A motion was made to approve the College of Engineering Admission Policy, seconded and unanimously approved. A motion was made to approve the updated Undergraduate Admission

Policy, seconded and unanimously approved. Dr. Wilson said the Department of Communication wants to create a Pre-Communication major. A motion was made to approve the Department of Communication's new major declaration, seconded and unanimously approved.

- F. University Curriculum Committee- Raydel Tullous
Dr. Tullous said the department of Communication requested to eliminate the Communication Studies Concentration. She said the committee recommended this elimination. The question was called and the senate unanimously approved.
- G. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee- Mary McNaughton-Cassill
Dr. McNaughton-Cassill said the committee has addressed two issues with the RowdySpace use for Promotion and Tenure. She said the committee recommends departments would be allowed to agree on what can be printed as long as they are destroyed properly. She said the committee also recommends the RowdySpace tracking feature be turned off. A motion to approve the report was made and unanimously approved.
- H. Nominating, Elections, and Procedures Committee- Diane Abdo
Ms. Abdo said the committee met after they received suggestions and comments from senators regarding the initial proposed changes to the bylaws. She said any subsequent changes that were made were typographical and non-substantive changes. She said in Article II the committee recommended only faculty who represent departments be voting members. The definition of the General Faculty from the HOP was reviewed. Ms. Abdo said the Secretary of the General Faculty was recommended to be an ex officio member without vote. A motion to keep the Secretary of the General Faculty as a voting member was made, seconded and approved by majority vote. A motion was made to keep "Unfinished Business" on the agenda, seconded and approved by majority vote. A motion to accept all the Bylaws changes was made, seconded, and passed by majority vote.
- I. Committee on Handbook of Operating Procedures-Donovan Fogt for Mel Laracey
Dr. Fogt said the committee worked on the four proposals as new additions to the HOP. The committee's recommendations were to accept HOP 10.05 Effort on Sponsored Programs with recommended revisions, to reject HOP 10.06 Cost Sharing on Sponsored Programs, to accept HOP 10.07 Base Salary on Sponsored Programs and to HOP 10.08 Cost Transfers on Sponsored Programs with recommended revisions. Dr. Fogt said that the overall language and tone was overly legalistic and not consistent with other HOP policies. He said it is very important for all research across campus. Dr. Fogt discussed all recommended revisions to HOP 10.05-10.08. (Report available at link below.)
<http://www.utsa.edu/Senate/fsminutes/04-14-11/HOP%20Committee%20Report%20-Updated%2041411.pdf>
The senate decided to approve the HOP items individually. The recommendation to accept HOP 10.05 with recommendations was made by the committee and unanimously approved by the senate. Dr. Fogt said HOP 10.06, Cost Sharing on

Sponsored Programs, makes grants more competitive and the committee feels the policy is in opposition to the university mission. The committee recommended to reject HOP 10.06 and this recommendation was unanimously approved by the senate. The committee recommended to accept HOP 10.07 as written and this was unanimously approved by the senate. Dr. Fogt said the committee recommends revisions regarding shell accounts, the role of research and grant development offices, the requirement that cost transfers be requested within 90 days of the initial posting of an account and the issue that salary transfers must be approved by the Senior Associate VPR. The committee recommended to accept HOP 10.08 with recommended revisions and this was unanimously approved by the senate.

J. IRB Committee- Kim Kline

Dr. Kline said the IRB Committee has a plan to do some research to find out what is working and what is not working in regards to IRB by talking to the faculty and the administration. She said they will also be looking into how other universities are negotiating their IRB processes. She said the committee will begin really working on this in the fall.

IV. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

V. New Business

There was no new business.

VI. Open Forum

Diane Abdo said the Paesano Student Newspaper was taking donations. She said the paper is completely independent from the university and therefore does not receive funds from UTSA. She said donors would receive free Santikos movie tickets while supplies lasted.

It was suggested that research centers be included in the HOP revision process in the future.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 5:45pm.